

Namibia

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Namibia GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Namibia could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Namibia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 7, 8 and 9 conducted in 2004.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Namibia. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 94%, the student response rate was 85.1%, and the overall response rate was 80%. A total of 6,231 students participated in the Namibia GYTS.

Prevalence

38.1% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 41.1%, Girls = 34.7%)
 29.0% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 32.2%, Girls = 25.3%)
 20.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 23.9%, Girls = 17.4%)
 17.8% currently use other tobacco products (Boys = 18.8%, Girls = 16.1%)
 37.8% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

40.1% think boys and 26.7% think girls who smoke have more friends
 29.8% think boys and 22.3% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

26.4% usually smoke at home
 31.1% buy cigarettes in a store
 62.9% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

41.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 56.7% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 33.4% think smoking should be banned from public places
 29.4% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 30.2% have one or more parents who smoke
 15.1% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

72.8% want to stop smoking
 71.1% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 80.9% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

69.5% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 60.0% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 65.5% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 18.7% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 23.4% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

30.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 31.3% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 40.8% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 29% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 20.8% currently smoke cigarettes; 17.8% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is high – 4 out of 10 students live in homes where others smoke, while over half of the students are around others who smoke in places outside of their home; 3 out of 10 students have one or more parents who smoke.
- Almost 3 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- One third of the students think smoking should be banned from public places.
- More than 7 in 10 students who are currently smoking indicated that they want to stop smoking now; over 70% of the students currently smoking tried to stop during the past year.
- Almost 70% of the students saw anti-smoking messages while 60% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, and over 6 in 10 students saw pro-cigarettes ads in newspapers & magazines.